

REMARKS

The Office Action in the parent case finally rejected claims 1,3,4 and 6-12 under 35 USC 112 as failing to define the invention in the required manner.

The office action has been carefully considered and after such consideration claims 1,3,4, 9, and 11 have been amended as per the Examiner's suggestions and claim 10 has been canceled since the Examiner indicated it did not further limit its dependant claims.

The Examiner indicated that the specification recited that reflected signals are reviewed for a crack tip signal before detecting whether ½ skip, full skip and 1 1/2 skip reflections are present. It will be noted that claim 1 has been amended to recite such a precedent step. Also, the Examiner suggested that the phrase "using target motion TOF with MCS correction" be changed to "using target motion time of flight (TOF) data to estimate the depth of the crack and correcting the TOF depth estimate for a mode converted signal (MCS)". This change has been made. Also, the Examiner required that "surface" be added before "crack at line 1 and this has been done. As such claim 1 should now stand in allowable form.

The Examiner in claim 3 suggested that the phrase "using FSN sizing method" be changed to --using the ratio of the 1 skip amplitude to the average of the ½ skip and the 1 1/2 skip amplitudes--. This change has been made and claim 3 should now be allowable.


The examiner in claim 4 suggested that --skip-- should follow "full in lines 9 and 11 and this change has been made making claim 4 allowable.

The Examiner suggested that claim 9 be change to recite "A method of sizing surface cracks in a metal surface as set forth in claim 1 wherein the TOF depth estimate is the UT system depth." And this change has been made making claim 9 allowable.

The Examiner indicted that claim 10 did not limit its dependant claims and hence it has been canceled. As to claim 11 it was suggested that the preamble be changed to "A method as set forth" and this has been done

In view of the foregoing the Applicants submit that they have complied with all the Examiners suggestions for placing the case in placed the case in condition for immediate allowance and such action is respectfully requested. The drawings were objected to as having improper margins and poor line quality and new drawings are included for the Examiner's approval.

Respectfully submitted,


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